

# GUIDELINES FOR LITERATURE REVIEW

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## 1. General guidelines

Length: approximately 15 to 20 pages.

Font size: 10 to 12.

Spacing: 1.5.

Be careful with the types of sources quoted (for example, do not just quote Internet sources, but also use books and journals).

Repeat the first part of the project description (as specified below). Marks will not be allocated to this again, but it is necessary to read it along with the literature review in order to be able to decide whether the literature review fits in with it in a meaningful way.

## 2. First page

Title of project

Module code

Name of student

Degree and year (for example, BSc Hons 2014)

Name of supervisor(s)

Subject group: Computer Science and Information Systems

Potchefstroom Campus NWU

## 3. Table of contents and page numbers

## 4. Project description

A brief description of what the project is about and what it involves.

## 5. Problem description and background

Description of research problem, its rationale and necessary background to the topic.

The theme, placing it in perspective, with information from the literature in the field of research.

Gaps or problems where this study can make a contribution.

Justification for the proposed study.

Overview of related literature with key references.

A clear research question, and the extent to which this study will help to answer the research question or what the contribution will be to the field of research (expected outcomes).

## **6. Aims and objectives of project**

Aims: write down general statements regarding what you would like to achieve with this project.

Objectives: itemise the specific tasks that you will execute to achieve the aims.

## **7. Literature review**

Introduction.

Discussion of related literature (with correct citations).

Summary.

Remember the *minimal data rule* in databases: *All the data that is necessary is there, and all the data that is there is necessary*. That also applies here!

Each section must also have an introductory paragraph and a summarising paragraph.

References (correctly stated).

## **8. Bibliography**